

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A data-providing apparatus for editing image data in response to a demand transmitted from a data-processing apparatus through a network, said data-providing apparatus comprising:

first acquisition means for acquiring one or more scenarios, each scenario comprising a plurality of scenes and each scene lasting for a predetermined time, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

second acquisition means for acquiring a predetermined number of image data items that are used in each scenario, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

user video-data management means for storing said one or more scenarios and said image data items;

receiving means for receiving the image data items transmitted by a user from the data-processing apparatus through the network;

temporary storage means for temporarily storing edited scenarios and edited image data items;

means for selecting the image data items acquired by the second acquisition means and for allocating the image data items to scenes of a scenario acquired by the first acquisition means; and

editing means for editing the image data items that are received by the receiving means and allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario.

2. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein special effects are allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario, and the apparatus

further comprising effect-applying means for applying the special effects to the image data items allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario.

3. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising transmission control means for controlling a transmission of the image data generated by applying the special effects to the image data items by the effect-applying means.

4. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising recording control means for controlling a recording of the image data generated by applying the special effects to the image data items by the effect-applying means.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of music items are allocated to the one or more scenarios.

7. (Original) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second acquisition means acquires the image data items supplied from the data-processing apparatus.

8. (Original) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second acquisition means acquires the image data items supplied from another data-processing apparatus.

9. (Previously Presented) A data-providing method for use in a data-providing apparatus for editing image data in response to a demand transmitted from a data-processing apparatus through a network, said data-providing method comprising the steps of:

acquiring one or more scenarios, each scenario comprising a plurality of scenes and each scene lasting for a predetermined time, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

acquiring a predetermined number of image data items that are used in each scenario, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

storing said one or more scenarios and said image data items in a user video-data management device;

receiving at a receiving device the image data items transmitted by a user from the data-processing apparatus through the network;

temporarily storing edited scenarios and edited image data items in a temporary storage device;

selecting the image data items acquired in the second acquiring step;

allocating the image data items to the scenes of a scenario acquired in the first acquiring step; and

editing the image data items that are received at the receiving device in the receiving step and allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario.

10. (Previously Presented) A program-storing medium which stores a computer-readable program, the program being used in a data-providing apparatus for editing image data in response to a demand transmitted from a data-processing apparatus through a network, the program comprising the steps of;

acquiring one or more scenarios, each scenario comprising a plurality of scenes and each scene lasting for a predetermined time, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

acquiring a predetermined number of image data items that are used in each scenario, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

storing said one or more scenarios and said image data items in a user video-data management device;

receiving at a receiving device the image data items transmitted by a user from the data-processing apparatus through the network;

temporarily storing edited scenarios and edited image data items in a temporary storage device;

selecting the image data items acquired in the second acquiring step;

allocating the image data items to the scenes of a scenario acquired in the first acquiring step; and

editing the image data items that are received at the receiving device in the receiving step and allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario.

11. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the editing means is capable of editing the image data items transmitted by the user and received by the receiving means, together with the one or more scenarios and the image data items stored at the user video-data management means.

12. (Previously Presented) A data-providing apparatus for editing image data in response to a demand transmitted from a data-processing apparatus through a network, said data-providing apparatus comprising:

a first processing mechanism configured to acquire one or more scenarios, each scenario comprising a plurality of scenes and each scene lasting for a predetermined time, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

a second processing mechanism configured to acquire a predetermined, number of image data items that are used in each scenario, in response to a demand made by the data-processing apparatus;

a user video-data management mechanism configured to store said one or more scenarios and said image data items;

a receiving mechanism configured to receive the image data items transmitted by a user from the data-processing apparatus through the network;

a temporary storage mechanism configured to temporarily store edited scenarios and edited image data items;

an image selecting mechanism configured to select the image data items acquired by the second acquisition means;

an image allocating mechanism configured to allocate the image data items to scenes of a scenario acquired by the first acquisition means; and

an editing mechanism configured to edit the image data items received by the receiving mechanism and that are allocated to the scenes of the acquired scenario.

13. (Previously Presented) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the editing mechanism is configured to be capable of editing the image data items transmitted by the user and received by the receiving mechanism, together with the one or more scenarios and the image data items stored at the user video-data management mechanism.